

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A ~~non-catalytic~~ non-cleaving compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein B, wherein said compound ~~(1) specifically hybridizes with nucleotides 1-114 or nucleotides 151-14121 as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3~~ specifically hybridizes to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 and (2) ~~inhibits the expression of a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein B,~~ demonstrates at least 30% inhibition of apoB expression when applied *in vitro* at a concentration of 150nM to HepG2 cells.
2. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.
5. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.
6. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.
7. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety
8. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.
9. (Original) The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.
10. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a

chimeric oligonucleotide.

11. (Currently amended) A ~~non-catalytic~~ non-cleaving compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length ~~which~~ wherein said compound (1) specifically hybridizes with at least an 8-nucleobase portion of an active site within nucleotides 1-114 or nucleotides 151-14121 as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 and (2) demonstrates at least 50% inhibition of apoB expression when applied *in vitro* at a concentration of 150nM to HepG2 cells.

12. (Currently amended) A composition comprising the compound of ~~claim 1~~ any one of claims 1, 2, 10 and 11 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting the expression of apolipoprotein B in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of apolipoprotein B is inhibited.

16. (Withdrawn) A method of treating an animal having a disease or condition associated with apolipoprotein B comprising administering to said animal a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 so that expression of apolipoprotein B is inhibited.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the condition involves abnormal lipid metabolism.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the condition involves abnormal cholesterol metabolism.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the condition is atherosclerosis.

20. (Currently amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ non-cleaving compound of claim 1 targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein B, wherein said compound (1) ~~specifically hybridizes with nucleotides 1-114 or nucleotides 151-14121 as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3~~ specifically hybridizes to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 and inhibits the expression of the long form of apolipoprotein B, ApoB-100.

21. (canceled)

22. (canceled)

23. (canceled)

24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)

26. (canceled)

27. (canceled)

28. (New) The compound of claim 11 wherein the compound is a sodium salt.